

Hunting Safety

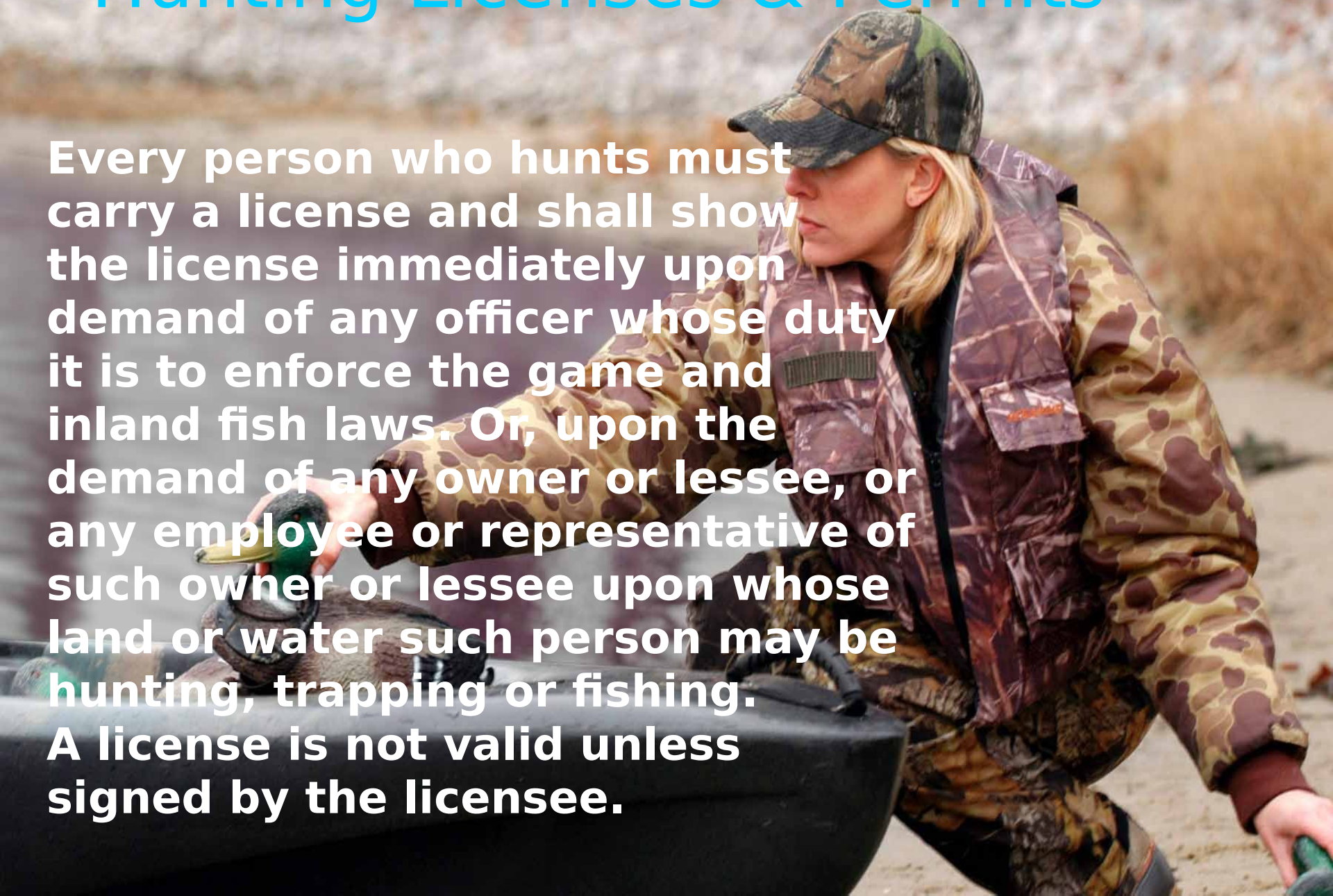


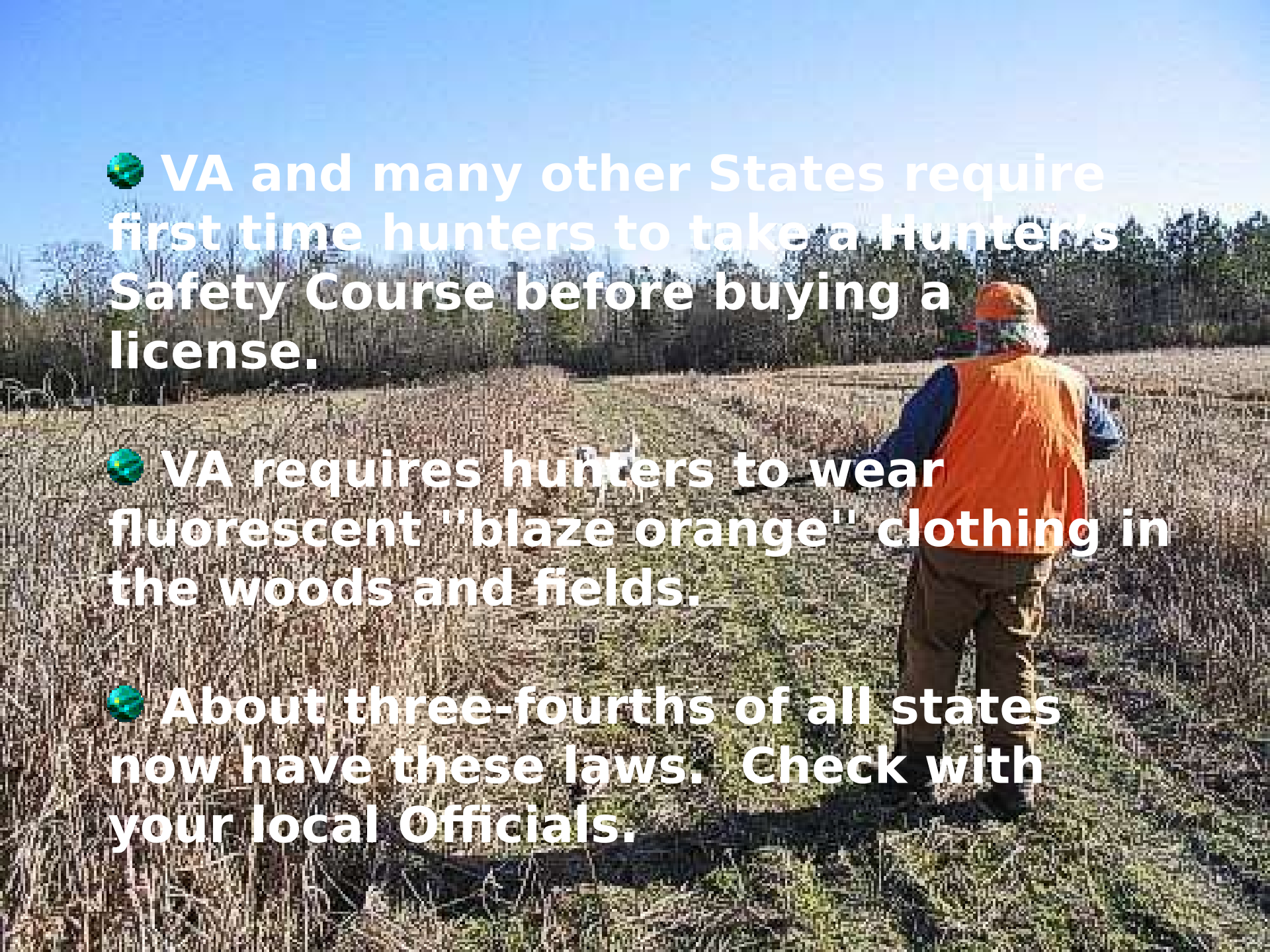
Ten Commandments of Firearm Safety

1. Keep firearm pointed in a safe direction at all times
2. Treat every firearm as though it were loaded
3. Be sure of target & what is in front & behind it
4. Keep your finger outside the trigger guard until ready to shoot.
5. Check your barrel for obstructions and ammunition for flaws.
6. Unload firearms when not in use
7. Point firearm only at something you intend to shoot.
8. Don't run, jump, or climb with a loaded firearm
9. Store firearms & ammunition separately & safely.
10. Avoid alcoholic beverages before & during hunting sessions

Hunting Licenses & Permits

Every person who hunts must carry a license and shall show the license immediately upon demand of any officer whose duty it is to enforce the game and inland fish laws. Or, upon the demand of any owner or lessee, or any employee or representative of such owner or lessee upon whose land or water such person may be hunting, trapping or fishing. A license is not valid unless signed by the licensee.



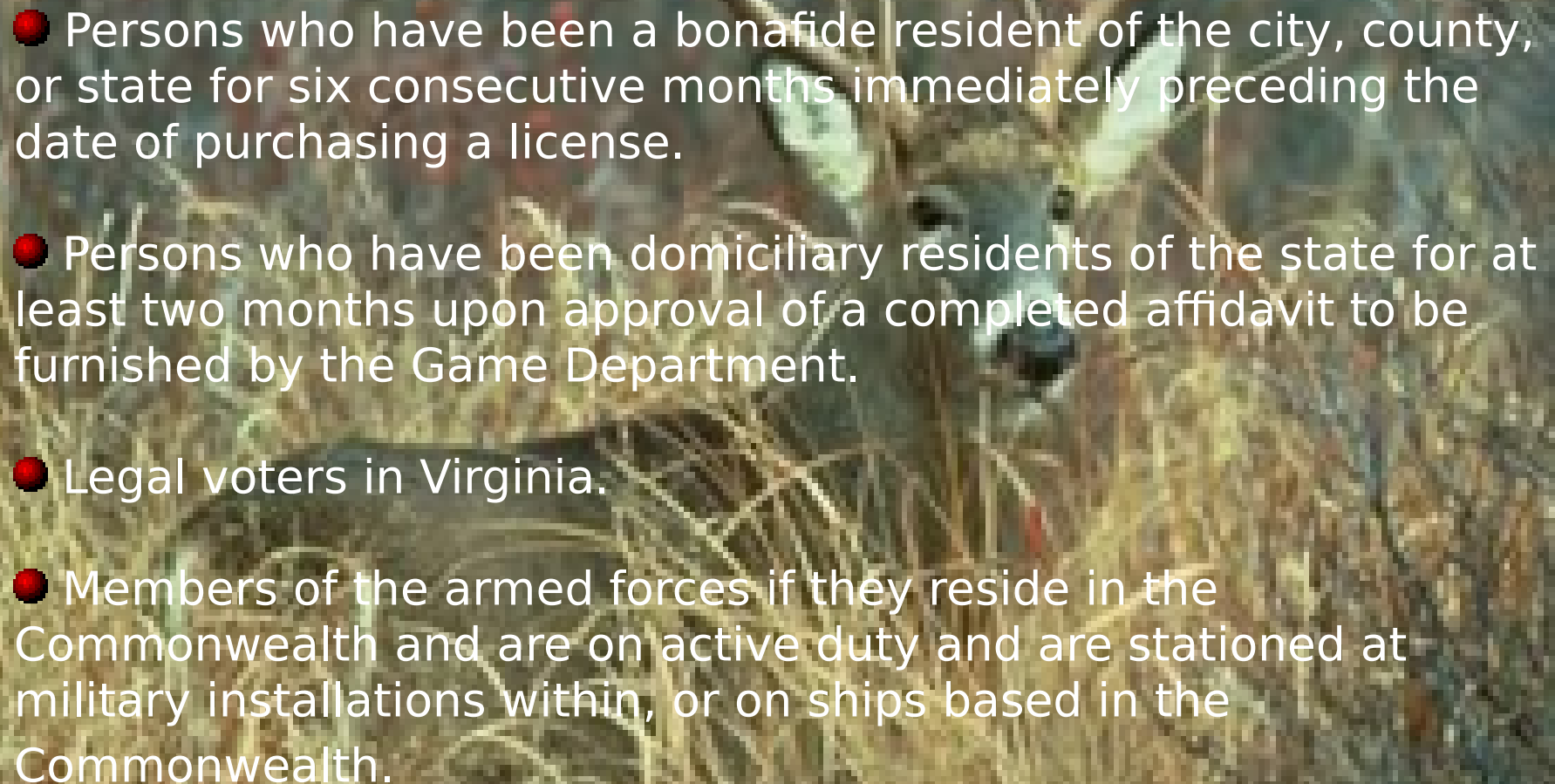
A person wearing a bright orange safety vest and a matching hat is walking away from the camera through a field of tall, dry grass. The background shows a line of trees under a clear blue sky.

● VA and many other States require first time hunters to take a Hunter's Safety Course before buying a license.

● VA requires hunters to wear fluorescent "blaze orange" clothing in the woods and fields.

● About three-fourths of all states now have these laws. Check with your local Officials.

Residency Qualifications:

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- A photograph of a deer with large, velvet-covered antlers standing in a field of tall, dry grass. The background is a blurred forest scene with trees and foliage.
- Persons who have been a bonafide resident of the city, county, or state for six consecutive months immediately preceding the date of purchasing a license.
 - Persons who have been domiciliary residents of the state for at least two months upon approval of a completed affidavit to be furnished by the Game Department.
 - Legal voters in Virginia.
 - Members of the armed forces if they reside in the Commonwealth and are on active duty and are stationed at military installations within, or on ships based in the Commonwealth.

What License Do I Need?

- Small Game, rabbit, squirrel, ground hog, grouse ect.

A hunting license is required. National Forest Stamp, or State Forest Stamp, if applicable, is also required.

- Bear, Deer, and Turkey

An individual bear, deer, or turkey license is required in addition to a hunting license. National Forest Stamp, State Forest Stamp, County Damage Stamp and Bonus Deer Permits, if applicable, are also required.

Bear- Oct 11-Nov 8

Deer- check with local areas, different times for different localities

Turkey- Oct 4-Nov 8

- **Waterfowl**

A hunting license, Federal Duck Stamp and Virginia Migratory Waterfowl Conservation Stamp is required. A National Forest Stamp or State Forest Stamp, if applicable, may also be required.

For more info/assistance <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/regulations/>

Weapons License

● Archery

License is required in addition to a hunting license if hunting with a bow and arrow (longbow, recurve or compound) during any archery season. National Forest Stamp, State Forest Stamp, County Damage Stamp and Bonus Deer Permits, if applicable, are also required.

● Crossbow

License is required in addition to a hunting license if hunting with a crossbow during any archery season. National Forest Stamp, State Forest Stamp, County Damage Stamp and Bonus Deer Permits, if applicable, are also required.

● Muzzleloader

Muzzle loader license is required in addition to the hunting license if hunting with a muzzle loading firearm during any muzzleloader deer season. National Forest Stamp, State Forest Stamp, County Damage Stamp and Bonus Deer Permits, if applicable, are also required.

Note: If hunting with archery tackle or muzzle loading rifle during the firearms deer season, you do not need an archery, crossbow or muzzle loading license.

Where to Obtain a License

- **Online:** At www.huntfishVA.com. Select the license's you want, pay with your VISA or Master-Card, and print your license's after you pay.
- **In Person:** Sold by some clerks of the Circuit Court and hundreds of license agents around the state.
- **By Mail:** Download and complete the proper form from the [Departments Web site](#) and mail it to the address provided.
- **By Phone:** Customer Service at 1-866-721-6911, Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.



Violations can be costly

Fines vary from City to City or County to County each jurisdiction has it's own courts that assess fines and penalties, check with your local area.

Here are a few but not all.

No license with game in your possession	\$500.00 fine
Over the limit	\$500.00 fine restocking fee
	+\$50.00 per water foul
Caught with no license	\$200.00 fine
No water foul stamp	\$200.00 fine
Using lead/hazardous shot	\$200.00 fine
Caught hunting after hours	\$200.00 fine
Protected animal or bird	\$500.00 fine

ORM for Hunting

- Know Your Location:

Learn as much as possible about your chosen hunting area before you arrive. Get topographic maps, & familiarize yourself with terrain.

- Be Ready:

Minimize & help avoid problems with careful planning. Responsible hunters anticipate potential problems & plan to deal with them in advance. Consider terrain, location, weather, dangerous game, and potential for forest fires when planning.

- Prepare for Safety:

Assess your physical condition & equipment. Refresh your memory of hunting & firearm safety rules, & review rules with hunting partners, pack a first aid kit.

- Select clothing based on the weather you expect, while being prepared for the worst.

- Tell Someone:

Prepare a trip plan that tells where & with whom you will be hunting & when you expect to return.

- Survival situation:

When you find yourself in a situation, the most important tool you have is your brain:

Stop when you realize you've got a problem. The first thing to do is admit to yourself that you are in trouble.

Think about what you need to do to survive.

Observe the area; & look for shelter; fire fuel, & water.

Plan how you are going to use your survival kit & your other available resources. Don't wait until dark to plan. Remain calm. Think clearly. Use what ever tools are available to you.

Eight Rules to Live by

- Don't hunt alone.
- Take enough food & water to last for several days in an emergency.
- Bring a map & compass, & always orient yourself before leaving camp.
- Wear layered clothing & take extra clothing, preferably wool & polyester, with you.
- Plan your outings so that you can return to camp before dark.
- Never leave camp without taking fire-starting equipment & a foil blanket.
- Don't panic if you become lost.
- Give a responsible person your hunting plan as discussed previously.



Questions

The Naval Safety is here to help if there are questions you need answers to, let us help you out...

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